TWO NEW VOLUMES IN A GROWING LIT-

TENNYSON, POET, PHILOSOPHER, IDEALIST, Studies of the Life, Work and Teaching of the Studies of the Life, Work and Teaching of the Poet Laureate. By J. Cuming Walters, with portrait on steel by Armytuse after a photograph by Mrs. Cameron. Pp. vill., 370. Kegan Paul, French, Trübner & Co. Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons.

A STUDY OF THE WORKS OF ALFRED LORD TENNYSON, POET LAUREATE. By Edward Campbell Tainsh. New edition completed and largely rewritten. Pp. xi., 212. Macmilian & Co. Tennyson literature promises to rival that which has grown up around the name of Goethe, and it threatens to be not less minute. It is not likely that Tennyson's daily life can be accounted for with the exactness now professed

by the students of Goethe's biography. Mystelacunae have already been discovered which there seems to be no hope of filling. Nevertheless, the collators of personal incident and meof the open contempt with which Tennyson treated all inquiry of this sort. We are already instructed by formal treatises as to the limits and the accuracy of Tennyson's knowland modern literature. We know much, actu- of Mr. Tainsh is intrespective to a degree, ally or potentially, respecting his relations to Shelley. We have found already that his works, this allegory can be wonderfully elaborated and yet be held together. What the Alexandrians did with the Iliad and the Odyssey, what the Roman rammarians did with Virgil, what the fanciful commentators did with Dante, what modern Tennyson, too. Plain people, mere levers of good poetry wherever they find it, may heave a sigh shelves the books and the essays that will doubtless tumble from the press in growing numbers for a generation or more. They will be none the for they will have Tennyson's works the form which he deliberately gave them. Perhaps the main interest of this growing secondary literature lies in the proof it affords of the utter want of originality in the human race. Meanwhile, if some youth with a taste for

criticism and for elucidation like that which should collect the writings of the present day, and should carefully annotate, with due honesty toward his sources, every poem of Tennyson, line by line, he might really accomplish a task that would win him the gratitude of incult thing to do with poems that have descended from hand to hand for many ages is to restore the conditions under which they were poet's mind, but the conditions of contemporary life. As the Servian commentary has always poet's time and a little later have disappeared, so would such a body of notes as is here suggested survive with Tennyson all the books and essays of the present day which touch the theme only here or there. The work should be done, as "In Memoriam" is said to have been written, without any thought of publication. If it were well done, there need be no fear but that the world would take care of it as long as it retained any affection for Tennyson.

It is only as unintentional contributions to the library of some such commentator as is here meant that books like those of Mr. Walters and Mr. Tainsh can be taken in all the seriousness desired by the authors. For the coming annotator, if he knows his business, will go through his collection with a blue pencil, really or figuratively, and he will put a broad mark upon rot new. The earliest critical essays on Tennyson will doubtless suffer the least, for they were nearest the theme. But it is inevitable that the repetitions of ideas will grow more frequent as time passes. If one were to take either of these through every sentence the substance of which he had found somewhere else, he might be surprised at the result. It is in many instances impossible that the case should be otherwise. Take, for example, that passage of "In Memoriam" about men rising

"on stepping-stones Of their dead selves to higher things."

St. Augustine which Longfellow used with such graphic effect, or the other remark, authorized by Tennyson himself, that he was indebted to Goethe? To these references, which every commentator has, but which might just as well be given once for all, each author has added others -Mr. Walters a passage from the "Hitopadesa," and one from Coventry Patmore, and Mrs Tainsh, from a newspaper clipping lines written by Petrarch and by Milton. But it is doubtful If Tennyson could have had any of these examples in mind. They are of value only as fillustrating the way a thought wanders when once it has been set moving in the world. Peralleged plagiarism. "Are not human eyes all over the world," ne asked, "looking at the same objects, and must there not consequently be coincidences of thought and impressions and exbecause he is speaking from his inner knowlthe word "plagiarism" to meet the case as it logically suggests the same details to two minds up. The wonder is that such infinite variety same. Now, Tennyson was a scientist as well correct. How, then, could be differ except in some quality of genius from the prosaic naturalist? This is illustrated by Mr. Walters and Mr. Tainsh-both going over the same ground again, each showing how the poet transfigured without changing a fact which hundreds of other persons may have mentioned. It takes almost a paragraph to give a scientific account of what

Tennyson meant when he alluded to the

Now this was just the place where, as uld not have been original, but where the purpose and the form are his by divine right.

Suppose he discovered the natural fact underlying his verse, independently of others; that lying his verse, independently of others; that would be a trifle. Suppose he obtained the fact from a book. That would not lessen the profound originality of the thought which he has

head of this article, though they sometimes head of this article, though they sometimes mention the same details—details which others, too, have discussed—yet view Tennyson in extremely diverse aspects. As will be easily imagined by those who have read Mr. Walters's

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GASTON DOUAY, 219 West 44th at. earlier works "In Tennyson Land," he takes a thoroughly outward conception of his subject.

largely with an inspection of the means by which Tennyson produced a given effect. He exemplifies the evolution of the poet as a poet, that is, as a master of verse-making; as a philosopher, that is, a man who sought fer his wn peace of mind a solution of the problem of life and of the world; as an idealist, that is, as one who sought to right some wrongs and perone who sought to right some another ought haps to portray men and women as they ought to be, rather than as they were. He rees, for the case of the control of the case of th example, in "In Memoriam," a soul finally triumphant over doubt, where a mind more individual and mystical would see little hope. That "far-off divine event" is a very chilling thing to those whose faith demands a personal God. But externally he is surely right as to Tennyson's thought. By way of contrast, one might well read the essay on "In Memoriam" by the lamented Brother Azarias. Religiously, the highest note of "In Memoriam" is a devout pantheism where the dead friend has become idealized, and to use Mr. Tainsh's words, "known in character, but unknown in mode of being, has come edge in betany and various other sciences, his produced for two centuries." If Mr. Walters's view of Tennyson is thoroughly external, that is ever on the alert, not for allegory, but fer a deep spiritual meaning. Certain experiences of ism, one might almost say demonism. He dislikes the associations of the word magic, and would exclude it, if he had his way, from the "Idylls of the King." In many of the poems from "Enoch Arden" onward to the close of Tennyson's life he finds a growing disposition in the poet to make use of portents and signs, of the belief in pre-existence, spiritual intercommunication, and ghostly visitants. All these too seriously. Tennyson meant to give profound prejudices of the characters which he aimed to portray. Knowing that people are what they are, is it strange that Enoch Arden's wife should that he was doing anything more significant than to depict, with all fidelity to nature, an | Elekse

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ignorant, simple-minded, credulous woman.

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MORE CAUTION OBSERVED.

REASONS FOR CONSERVATISM.

FEARS REGARDING ATCHISON ONE OF THE CAUSES OF DEPRESSION-STRENGTH DESPITE AD-

VERSE CONDITIONS.

Sunday, December 24-p. m. The United States Treasurer received last week from customs, \$1,992,788; from internal revenue, \$2,774,953, and from miscellaneous sources, \$1,320,897; total, from all, \$6,088,628 against \$5,447,358 ir the previous week. The weekly Treasury statement shows a decrease crease of \$190,408 in deposits in National banks. This leaves the net cash balance \$2,233,539 less than a week ago. The unfavorable feature of the statement is the heavy loss both in the amount of gold held and the net gold balance also. For the month to date, the expenditures of the Government have exceeded the receipts by \$5,194,042, and for the fiscal year to date, the

deficit in receipts is \$35,112,138. The principal changes in the vault balances were made up as follows: A loss in the gold balance of \$1,517,295, by a decrease of \$1,730,065 in coin and bullion, less a reduction of \$212,770 in the amount of outstanding certificates; a loss in the silver balance of \$976,637, by an increase of \$946,516 in outstanding certificates and Treasury notes, and a loss of \$30,121 in coin and bulminus an increase of \$1,688,000 in currency certificates. Holdings of National bank notes were reduced by \$219,387. The volume of Treasury notes in circulation was reduced \$143,612. The Treasury's liability for the redemption of National bank notes was enlarged further by \$939. account amounted at the end of the week to

Subjoined is Saturday's statement, compared

stes S. notes less ertificates \$53,939,399 \$82,422,104 Dec. \$1,517,298 5,278,210 5,567,582 Inc. 289,379 12,497,511 12,277,924 Dec. 219,387 6,314,343 5,337,706 Dec. 976,637

Cash in Treas...\$108,029,263 \$105,605,316 Dec. \$2,423,947 . 11,463,720 11,654,128 Inc. 190,409 Total balance...\$119,492,983 \$117,259,444 Dec. \$2,233,539

Net cash bal.... \$19,492,983 \$17,259,444 Dec. \$2,233,539 BANK CONDITIONS COMPARED.

By the operations of the New-York Sub-Treasthe associated banks gained \$744.745, The weekly bank statement published yesterday showed an average gain in cash of \$2,593,100. The gain in legal-tenders was, of course, larger than that in specie, and in both cases it was somewhat smaller than expert estimates. The expansion of loans was not large, amounting to only \$865,100; details, and the increase in deposits was smaller by only about \$150,000 than the other changes demanded. The result of all the changes was a gain of \$1.768,950 in the surplus reserve, and the banks now hold in excess of legal requirements \$77,937,775, against \$6,176,575 in the corresponding week a year ago, and \$19,480,025 at the same time in the preceding year.

The changes in the corresponding week in three The changes in the corresponding week in three preceding years were as follows: 1892—Loans decreased \$3,529,300; cash decreased \$475,000; deposits decreased \$4,825,400, and surplus reserve increased \$731,350. 1891—Loans increased \$6,415,200; cash increased \$2,510,600; deposits increased \$315,525. 1890—Loans decreased \$1,056,200; cash increased \$3,658,600; deposits increased \$1,729,300, and surplus reserve increased \$3,226,275. Subjoined is Saturday's statement, compared with the corresponding dates of 1891 and 1892;

with the corresponding dates of 1891 and 1892: The following shows the relation between the total reserve and the total deposits at the re-

spective dates: 4:30 A. M., Surplus \$10,480,025 \$9,176,578 \$77,937,775

The following table shows the percentage of

Washington Fill And State National States and Consider And States westforty expliess company will call for and check burgers from botel or residence to destination.

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